PT 2 of 3 SCS

REPLY TO:
☒ SACRAMENTO OFFICE
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Assembly
California Legislature

CHAIRMAN
REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

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HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

WILLIE L. BROWN, JR.
MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY, 17TH DISTRICT
SAN FRANCISCO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____
RDS ☐ NO ☐ EXP. DATE _____
TO ARCH. _____ PULLED(S) _____
☐ CLASS ☐
February 27, 1978
EXEMPT CONT
FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania St.
Washington D.C.

Dear President Carter:

It is an honor for me to write on behalf of Rev. Jim Jones, a rare human being and leader of the first order. He has been unjustly maligned in recent months, but is presently undertaking a remarkable agricultural mission in Guyana, South America, the reality of which flies in the face of all its detractors. Rev. Jones, more than any other minister the Bay Area has seen, did wonders for this community in terms of tackling ingrained social problems, such as drug abuse, crime, and unemployment. I have no doubt that his inspirational leadership is motivating the Peoples Temple members in Guyana to even greater achievements, now that they are established on their own territory free from the tensions and hinderances of urban life.

As a leader within the minority community of San Francisco and of the State of California, I can speak to the tireless efforts Jim Jones extended to virtually everyone in need of assistance when he was a resident of our city. The Third World community knows and respects him well. A man this noteworthy for his high principles, ceaseless work, and extraordinary ability to motivate others is surely the best representative our country could hope to have in the emerging Third World nation of Guyana. I have confidence that Jim Jones' community can only reflect well upon both America and the Guyanese.

I had the pleasure of attending a testimonial dinner on behalf of Rev. Jones, at which he was presented well-deserved certificates of commendation from both the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and the State Senate, the latter of which was initiated by my Republican colleque, Senator Milton Marks. The dimension of Rev. Jim Jones humanitarian goals and accomplishments is such that he has been uniquely able to transcend surface political considerations to promote concrete, humane and better conditions of life for all our citizens.

I am advised that Rev. Jones decision to remain in Guyana for the time being. I understand that decision. I respect it and I am sure that Rev. Jones will return to this country when he deems it wisest to do so.

From the news stories about Rev. Jones absence from the country, it is clear that many persons opposed to Rev. Jones are attempting to exploit the absence for their political purposes. I am frankly appalled at such efforts. I hope that you will not be persuaded to assist in their efforts.

Jim Jones is truely an American asset!

Sincerely,

Willie L. Brown Jr.

WILLIE L. BROWN, JR.

WLB/jk